



UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON

## Project Approval Form (PAF)

**Project Title:** Engaging Students and Public in Marine Conservation through Sustainable Shellfish Aquaculture (Phase I)

**Primary Contact:** Daniel Gillon – dgillon@uw.edu

By signing this form, I confirm that the project lead(s) has/have discussed this project with me, and that I (please check all that apply)

- approve the stated project to be conducted on the University of Washington-Seattle campus (this approval can only be given by campus units or by individuals on behalf of campus units) **(REQUIRED)**.
- agree to be a part of the project team.
- will provide support to the project by being a partnering organization, department or individual.
- am the administrator for my campus unit and agree to for the financial and human resources Transactions associated with this project.
- agree to take over the operational costs of this project following completion.

**Other notes (if applicable):**

**Name/Signature:**

Lisa J. Graumlich

**Date:**

01/20/15

**Title:**

Dean, College of the Environment, and Virginia and Prentice Bloedel Professor

**Department/Organization:**

College of the Environment

**Phone:**

206-221-0908

**Email:**

graumlic@uw.edu

**Additional Notes:**

Dear Campus Sustainability Fund Committee,

I am writing to convey my enthusiastic support for the proposed Campus Sustainability Fund project "Engaging Students and Public Marine Conservation through Sustainable Shellfish Aquaculture (Phase I)."

This feasibility study would enable the students involved to gain valuable knowledge about developing a sustainable business model and obtaining the environmental and business permits necessary to establish such a business. In particular, this project offers the opportunity for a SMEA graduate student to engage in a thesis project that looks at both the business side of operating a shellfish hatchery as well as fully assessing the environmental impacts of developing such an operation at Big Beef Creek. All students involved would gain experience interacting with a wide variety of academic, industry, and governmental stakeholders. Such experience is invaluable for students entering the modern workforce.

The UW as a whole would benefit from this project, for it takes the concept of sustainable food sourcing to the next level by having the potential to provide all of the campus's shellfish needs. Were the study to prove that a shellfish farm is feasible, the establishment of the farm would set a precedent for campus sustainability efforts. The farm could serve as an educational tool for a variety of audiences – current and prospective UW students, the UW and surrounding community, and, at a national level, our sustainability peers. We could measure the carbon footprint of the farm operations and use this to catalyze efforts to comprehensively measure the carbon footprint of all food sourcing on campus. It would place the UW securely on the map of sustainable food and aquaculture in higher education, and unless this feasibility study is conducted, we do not know just how achievable securing that place would be.

In closing, I strongly support this proposal to conduct a feasibility study for a shellfish farm at Big Beef Creek that engages both our students and the public. I hope that the Campus Sustainability Fund committee will agree with me that there is great value in conducting this study and fund the proposal.

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*Please save this completed form as "Project Contact Name\_Project Name" and email it to [csfcoord@uw.edu](mailto:csfcoord@uw.edu). The email originating directly from the approving body will be considered a signature. Paper copies may be sent through campus mail to Attn: CSF Coordinator, Box 351248 or dropped off to the CSF Office at Gerberding Hall, Room B-40 and must include an original signature of the approving body.*